

Laboratoire Pasteur
DE
INSTITUT DU RADIUM

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Rue d'Ulm, 26

TÉL. : ODÉON 45-75

Service de Radiobiologie
de
L'INSTITUT PASTEUR

Dear Lederberg:

Two days ago I asked Nicolle, who keeps the collection of lysogenic strains at the Institut Pasteur, to send you the Lisbonne one with the Shiga indicator. I had given him these stocks a few days ago. We don't have spare copies of ancient reprints, but you might find some in Bordet's lab. I suggest you write to Paul Bordet in Brussels.

As regard your problem of disinfection, it is very hard to find a selective agent which acts more efficiently on the virus than on the host. The only one I can think about would be a temperature of about 40°C which usually keeps the cells alive, and kills a lot of viruses in about 50 to 100 hours. You may know that many disinfections from virus diseases have been obtained this way in plants.

Herewith enclosed is my preliminary note on radiation induced mutation in a phage. I could add that:

Irradiation of free virus gave negative results, as well as irradiation of bacteria prior to infection. At present, I am investigating what happens when I irradiate the free virus, then infect B with it, and plate on the indicator before lysis of the infected B. When this experiment will be finished, I'll write a full paper.

The possibility of selection was ruled out.

Sincerely yours

Raymond Latarjet

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